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NEWSPAPER ARTICLE "TESTS REVEAL CONTAMINATED GROUNDWATER" NSB KINGS  
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## ***Tests Reveal Contaminated Groundwater***

By MARK JICHA  
Publisher/Editor

Nearly 600 Crooked River Plantation residents received warnings about groundwater contamination from U.S. Navy and St. Marys officials, but restrictions only apply to shallow wells and the public water supply remains unaffected.

Navy officials discovered a "plume" of groundwater contaminated with vinyl chloride, a solvent by-product, originating from the site of the old Camden County Landfill, just north of the Jackson Gate.

They issued the warnings jointly with St. Marys city officials even though it is not considered to be a public health risk.

Crooked River Plantation resi-

dents were notified with door-to-door notices informing them of a public meeting Thursday, Sept. 3 at 7 p.m. at Crooked River Elementary School, directing questions to the Public Affairs Office at the base at 673-4714.

"This groundwater is not the source of St. Marys public drinking water which supplies your neighborhood, or the source which supplies the base," the release stated. "Use of public water can continue as usual. But, in order to continue the groundwater investigation, the Navy and local officials need your help."

"In order to determine the size, position and nature of the plume, and to plan for its cleanup, all private wells in your neighborhood

regardless of use, need to be identified and tested. Testing of private wells could begin as early as September, with your cooperation," the release continued.

The warning has been issued because vinyl Chloride is a carcinogen with mixes with water but evaporates when exposed to the air, as when sprayed in a lawn

sprinkler. It may then be inhaled and in high enough concentra-

tions, could be unhealthy, Navy officials stated.

Continued pumping of groundwater may cause the plume to move, making plume more difficult to locate and measure, and the cleanup more difficult.

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